

## DECLARATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or the below named inventors are the original, first and joint inventors (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled **An Epidural Catheter Dispenser System to Contain and Control an Epidural Catheter, Maintain Epidural Catheter Sterility and Prevent Epidural Catheter Contamination**, the Specification of which:

☒ is attached hereto.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability of the subject matter claimed in this application, as "materiality" is defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56.

I hereby claim priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent, United States provisional application(s), or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent, United States provisional application, or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

## PRIORITY APPLICATION(S)

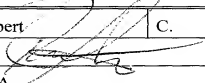
PRIORITY APPLICATION(S)			Priority Claimed
(Number)	(Country)	(Date Filed)	Yes/No
(Number)	(Country)	(Date Filed)	Yes/No

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me to be material to patentability of the subject matter claimed in this application, as "materiality" is defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56, which become available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status)
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status)

I hereby direct that all correspondence and telephone calls be addressed to Robert J. McAughan, Jr., Howrey Simon Arnold & White, LLP, 750 Bering Drive, Houston, Texas 77057-2198, (713) 787-1400.

I HEREBY DECLARE THAT ALL STATEMENTS MADE OF MY OWN KNOWLEDGE ARE TRUE AND THAT ALL STATEMENTS MADE ON INFORMATION AND BELIEF ARE BELIEVED TO BE TRUE; AND FURTHER THAT THESE STATEMENTS WERE MADE WITH THE KNOWLEDGE THAT WILLFUL FALSE STATEMENTS AND THE LIKE SO MADE ARE PUNISHABLE BY FINE OR IMPRISONMENT, OR BOTH, UNDER SECTION 1001 OF TITLE 18 OF THE UNITED STATES CODE AND THAT SUCH WILLFUL FALSE STATEMENTS MAY JEOPARDIZE THE VALIDITY OF THE APPLICATION OR ANY PATENT ISSUED THEREON.

Inventor's Full Name:	Robert	C.	Simpson
Inventor's Signature:			
Country of Citizenship:	USA	Date:	11-16-01
Residence Address: (street, number, city, state, and/or country)	6110 Old Water Oak Road Tallahassee, FL 32312-3865		
Post Office Address: (if different from above)			

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  
Robert C. Simpson

Serial No.: Unknown

Filed: Unknown

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Examiner: Unknown

Atty. Dkt. No.: 13421.0002.NPUS00/MCA

For: An Epidural Catheter Dispenser System to  
Contain and Control an Epidural Catheter,  
Maintain Epidural Catheter Sterility and  
Prevent Epidural Catheter Contamination

VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY  
STATUS (37 CFR §§ 1.9(f) AND 1.27(b)) - INDEPENDENT INVENTOR

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR § 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under Section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention described above.

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR § 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR § 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR § 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

☒ no such person, concern or organization  
☐ persons, concerns or organizations listed below\*

\*NOTE: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR § 1.27)

FULL NAME: Robert C. Simpson  
ADDRESS: 6110 Old Water Oak Road, Tallahassee, FL 32312  
☒ INDIVIDUAL ☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN ☐ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

FULL NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ INDIVIDUAL ☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN ☐ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of

paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR § 1.28(b)).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

Signature: [Signature]  
Name of Inventor: Robert C. Simpson

Date: 11-16-01

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Inventor: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Inventor: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_